

been accomplished. Rear-Admiral Evans found it necessary while the ships were at the targets in Magdalena Bay, to leave the fleet and seek treatment at Paso Doble, Hot Springs, Cal. His flag lieutenant went with him, and he retained his rank of commander-in-chief.

When the ships reached Monterey Bay, the last stopping place on the Pacific Coast prior to the entry into San Francisco harbor, Admiral Evans was helped aboard his old flagship and was on the after bridge when the Connecticut entered the Golden Gate at the head of the magnificent armada of fighting vessels ever gathered under one flag.

The Atlantic and Pacific fleets joined company in the bay, and there were more than forty ships in the four long columns that came to anchor under Evans' blue ensign. Three days later Admiral Evans hailed down his flag for all time.

It was succeeded as commander-in-chief by Rear-Admiral Charles F. Thomas, who sailed from Hampton Roads in command of the second squadron. Because of Admiral Evans' illness, the burden of the entertaining calls, the speeches and the entertainment of the trip around South America and up the California coast fell upon Admiral Thomas.

Death Invades Rank. Admiral Thomas was plainly failing in health when he succeeded Admiral Evans, and he retained official command only from May 9 to 15, 1908, being relieved at that time, ahead of the department's plans, in order that he might enjoy a rest.

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Headed for Home. After visits to various Mediterranean ports and accepting the hospitalities of half a dozen nations, the sixteen ships gathered again at Gibraltar and sailed for home Saturday, February 6.

They will be met at sea, about thirty miles from shore, by the third or "home" squadron of the Atlantic fleet, consisting of four battleships and five cruisers.

Through the Straits. From Trinidad the fleet called next at Rio, where the days of the visit were overcrowded with social events.

At Rio an unfounded rumor told of a plot by anarchists to blow up some of the American vessels. The first thrill of fear which swept the nation was quickly dispelled when the nation was shown to be a pure fabrication.

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developed an accuracy and rapidity of fire never before attained. After Magdalena came the excavation of the fleet to the California resorts, and there was apparently a never-ending program of merry-making. At San Diego (Coronado Beach), at the ports of Los Angeles, at Santa Barbara, at Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Francisco, the people of California greeted the fleet with wild acclamations. It was the first time that such an array of fighting vessels had been seen on the Pacific coast, and California celebrated with a hospitality for which the people of the State are noted.

A GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION Tremendous Task Confronts Those Who Seek to Care for Refugees.

The following letter, containing a graphic description of the horrors following the Italian earthquake, was written to her sister, who resides in Gloucester county, by a young woman a Virginian, now residing in Catania, Catania, Sicily.

Your card reached me to-day. Yes, you may well ask if we escaped or not. The earthquake here was very severe; it lasted fifty seconds, and seemed fifty years! I wrote you a postal immediately afterwards, as also to Florence, as I knew that you would receive news of it through the paper.

By this time you must know that nothing serious happened at Catania, but that we have over 20,000 refugees from Messina here, many wounded, and others half dead. I was terribly nervous after the earthquake, but on hearing of the destruction at Messina the next day and on the arrival of thousands and thousands of wounded, there was no more time to think of the earthquake.

Catania is only just beginning to look itself again, for until now it looked like a city in time of war and during a siege—nothing but stretchers and wounded going to and fro and crying and being half naked to places of shelter, and everybody trying to do something to help.

It was something too awful for any one to imagine; all you read in the papers and all you can fancy is nothing to the reality of the facts! Over 100,000 persons lay dead under the ruins of Messina. Think of 100,000 lives taken in one minute! Besides, there are all those who have died and still die daily in the hospitals here and there. On an average twenty-four to thirty died daily in Catania in the hospitals, mostly from gangrene; others from broken backs and skulls; some from tetanus; but in Catania only a few developed this, as they were immediately and thoroughly injected with the antitetanic serum; but they didn't inject the serum immediately, many who could have been saved died of this horrible malady as a result of the wounds.

Tremendous Task. Well, I was about completely worn out and so were many others, for Catania is comparatively small, and naturally to lodge and feed and clothe a completely naked and famished population, without help of any kind, for over eight days, was not easy. Naturally everything was systematized and orderly enough, but to cover the naked was different. I assure you, I have one hat and one coat—hardly enough to change. Our wardrobes are empty, our purses also, which is much worse! Well, God will provide for us certainly, and we cannot be too thankful to Him for having spared us an awful death, or what is worse, being maimed for life, as are some of my people; without legs, without an arm, blind, deaf, and not able to resume life. Others were found under the ruins with both legs almost completely severed from the body by heavy masses of stone!

This morning I went to see a little child at the hospital who has both legs and one arm broken and wounds all over his poor little body! The earthquakes, it seems, still continue to be active and they say that instruments still mark small earthquakes here at Catania, although they are too feeble to be felt. The Strait of Messina has completely changed the depth, and in places where it was sixty inches deep, is only twelve inches deep!

Work for Refugees. Now, many refugees are being taken away to various cities by philanthropic

TELLS HORRORS OF EARTHQUAKE

Young Woman Writes of Italian Calamity to Her Sister in Virginia.

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societies, and they are given the necessary instruments to continue their arts and trades, if they had any; work is found for them in the various cities, etc. The orphans or children whose parents are dead are provided for by the various institutions, etc. We put over forty little children on board to be kept, provided for and educated until the age of twenty-one. The city of Catania takes 200 and establishes an institution especially for these children.

At Rome the Queen and other ladies are founding a trust for them, and they will be cared for and educated until twenty-one years of age. The whole world has co-operated in helping these poor people, and warships bring in daily food, money and clothing.

The great question now is to find work for them, for they can't remain living eternally on public charity, and Catania must reopen her schools, which are all closed since the earthquake, as hundreds of people have and are still lodged there. The lower classes take advantage of their position and don't want to work or do anything, being quite contented to live on charity and do nothing.

Yesterday I went to the schools together with Alfredo and the Misses, our missionaries, who give them everything necessary to get up their business if they are artisans of any kind, besides money, and undertake to put them to work in any city they may choose, either in Italy or elsewhere. The schools are all refused to move, and said that they had nowhere to go and nothing to do. The better class, after a little pessimism and mourning that this was the last week which they could be lodged where they were, consented to work again. One family went to the other (a contrast) and went back to where Messina was to try to get work in clearing out the city, which will take months and months, and which is being done by the military only in order to prevent stealing.

Complete Disorganization. As you see, we are in the midst of the most complete disorganization of a whole city, and in Calabria it is even worse, for the smaller scale, for the cities and villages are naturally small compared to Messina. The Tusos had no parents or relatives in Messina, but we knew some of the officers stationed there, and two of them with their entire families perished, as did the American consul and his wife.

Well, I could keep on talking of all these things and still have something to say for a month. One of the rooms in our house has the wall cracked in two places, and we have to call the engineer to arrange it. Fortunately, this is a ground floor, built on solid lava, and standing quite alone; so this no house can fall upon us, as happened in Messina, where one house tumbled down on the ones near it, so burying under it the lower ones.

One gentleman here said that he found himself thrown into the house which stood on the opposite side of the street, and he escaped from a balcony on the top of the house. Besides, he was not otherwise hurt, only he lost his nightgown during the passage. Some of the people were saved in the most wonderful and extraordinary manner. Many who lived on the third floors of the houses were saved, but if you ask them how they escaped they don't know themselves. They say they fell through with all their room and all the furniture, and were saved in the midst of ruins, and they hurriedly fled away. Very few thought of remaining to look or help their fellow beings and, strange to say, they only thought of it when completely out of danger. Some say that this is natural, but I can't understand it, for I jumped out of bed to get Cora immediately, but was thrown down my full length on the floor.

As you see, we are all safe so far, although I don't know what is in store for us in the future. Many have preferred another home, but the Lord sent me here for some reason, I don't doubt, and here I must stay, I suppose. Every night when going to bed, I pray that God may have mercy on us all, for the most terrible fate is that of being overtaken when sleeping by such a calamity. The only shock to and fro as though I were on board ship in a storm. The doors flew open and the whole house creaked as if it would break through.

Ever yours truly,

PAUL IS PLEASED Venezuelan Envoy Hopes Relations Will Soon Be Resumed.

PARIS, February 14.—M. Jose de J. Paul, the special Venezuelan envoy, today expressed himself as greatly pleased by the government and the United States.

He hoped that the resumption of Venezuelan diplomatic relations would soon be effected in Europe as well as in America.

Decree Is Revoked. WILLEMSTAD, ISLAND OF CURACAO, February 14.—The Venezuelan government has revoked the decree prohibiting the traffic of goods between the Island of Curacao and Venezuela.

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APPROPRIATION BILLS IN DANGER

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Essences Restore Stomachs

Dyspepsia Everywhere Now Using Them—Cut This Out.

Are you ever "blue"? If before breakfast, dinner and supper you do not feel a hearty-hungry feeling and longing for food of almost any kind, if you feel feeble and want something to eat, but can't say what, then you are probably bordering on chronic dyspepsia.

If you feel bloated, have heartburn, sour stomach, bad breath and feel languid, dull or nervous and irritable, then you surely have need for the following simple recipe, which, it is claimed, has cured many famous people. Prescribed for many years with the utmost success, its power over stomach disorders is now well known and probably lies in the peculiar blending properties of concentrated essences. Get two ounces of syrup of ginger, two ounces of essence of peppermint and one ounce compound essence cardoli. Mix all together. Then take one or two teaspoonfuls after each meal. It will give you a good appetite before eating. May be taken freely by adults and children with weak stomachs, as it contains no opiate.

afternoon, Miss Josephine Woodward, the seven-year-old daughter of Stewart M. Woodward, was taken sick, and although every effort was made to afford relief, she died Saturday night about 8:30 o'clock at her home, 917 Floyd Avenue. She had been sick before, but was thought to have recovered. The party was given at a benefit for the Home for Incurables, and a large number of children took part, among them many friends and neighbors of the little Woodward girl; and, although not well enough to take part in the dancing herself, she went down to look on and enjoy the afternoon. Convulsions came on suddenly, and she was removed to her home, where she did not rally.

Elks Entertain. Richmond Lodge of Elks will entertain to-night at its clubhouse, each member having the privilege of inviting a friend. Dancing will begin at 8 o'clock and enjoy the afternoon in recognition of the Valentine season.

Miss Josephine Woodward Died After Watching Little Friends Dance. While attending a Valentine party at the Jefferson Hotel on Saturday

GIRL ILL AT PARTY

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News of the Southside

Manchester Bureau, Times-Dispatch, No. 1102 Hull Street.

Under the impression that he had been in a wreck, and had been severely burned, Thomas J. Westcott, better known in this city as "Bud," reached his home, 1817 Hull Street, late Saturday afternoon, where, after a physician had examined him, it was discovered that the entire left side of his body was paralyzed. Mr. Westcott's condition is serious, but last night he was reported as somewhat improved. He is employed by the Atlantic Coast Line Railway. He was evidently first stricken at Rocky Mount, N. C., while on duty.

According to members of the train crew, he had complained several times Friday of feeling unwell, and Saturday morning, just before the start from Rocky Mount was made, while attempting to dress, he lurching over the side of the train, badly burning his hands and face. Captain Parrish, conductor of the train, realizing that his condition was serious, telegraphed ahead for a physician, and at the next stop a doctor from the neighborhood met the train, but did not discover the cause of the trouble. The burns Westcott was paralyzed. The burns were carried to Manchester, where Captain Parrish offered to send for a carriage to take him home.

Westcott declined the offer, stating that he could walk, but he had gone far before he was almost overcome, and he assisted him to his house, where he was again attended by a physician, who did not discover the nature of the trouble. Westcott grew steadily worse from this time until after 8 o'clock, when Dr. Baker was summoned. After an examination he stated that the entire left side of the body was paralyzed. Mr. Westcott was perfectly conscious throughout the trip from Rocky Mount to Manchester, and has remained so since. He recognized his family and friends, but told them that the engine knocking him from his chair and throwing